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MAY 03 2007

Application No. 09/881,536

Docket No.: 65856-0032

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 8 are canceled herein, and independent claims 1 and 7 are amended to respectively incorporate subject matter previously recited in claims 2 and 8. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences decision dated January 24, 2006, while affirming the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 3-7, and 9-12, reversed the Examiner's rejection of claims 2 and 8. Inasmuch as the subject matter of claims 2 and 8 is now incorporated in claims 1 and 7 respectively, the Examiner is requested to enter the foregoing amendments and pass this application to issue.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing arguments, Applicants believe that the pending application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner believes that a personal interview with Applicants' representative would advance prosecution of this application, or that it is necessary to address any informalities in the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 65856-0032 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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